

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:

Yasuhito INAGAKI, et al.

Application No.: 09/905,662

Filed: July 13, 2001

For: SUBSTRATE CLEANING METHOD AND
SUBSTRATE CLEANING APPARATUS

Mail Stop AF
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Group Art Unit: 1746

Examiner: Michall Komakov

Confirmation No.: 5976

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M.K.

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RESPONSE UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.116

Sir:

In response to the Office action dated June 6, 2005, please consider the following remarks.

REMARKS

Claims 6, 8-16, and 18-22 remain pending in the above-identified Application.

Certified Translation of Priority Application

A certified translation of Applicants' Japanese Application No. P2000-240134 is enclosed with this Amendment. Because this priority application, dated August 8, 2000, predates the effective priority date of U.S. Patent No. 6,497,238 (Knotter), Knotter does not qualify as prior art against the present application. Accordingly, Applicants request the rejections relying on Knotter be withdrawn.

Conclusion

Applicants thank the Examiner for the August 8, 2005, telephonic conversation during which it was agreed the rejections would be withdrawn if a translation of the